THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, February 6, 1809.

THE FAIR PRODIGAL,

A TALE.

JULIA was the only child of a wealthy merchant, who had amassed immense property in the East-Indies; she was educated in the most expensive manner, and indulged by her doating father in every wish of her heart. It was that father's most anxious desire that she should, at a proper age, be united to his nephew, a young man of promising manners and disposition; and who was shortly expected home from Lisbon, where he was transacting some commercial business on his father's account. The parent of Julia, however, did not live to see his wishes accomplished; but on his death-bed he made it known to her, and entreated, that unless she felt a serious preference for another, she would reserve her hand for Henry. This Julia carelessly agreed to; the state in which she saw her father affected her deeply, and at that awful moment she could not bestow a thought on any thing else. Julia had, when at school, contracted an intimate friendship with a young lady named Marriot, whose person was as remarkably plain as that of Julia was captivating; but she was a sensible and agreeable companion, and having the misfortune to lose a mother she tenderly loved, and being left wholly unprovided for, Julia generously offered her an asylum with her, to which Miss Marriot sent the following affecting answer:

HARRIET TO JULIA.

"Why, my dear friend, do you attempt to remonstrate with me on my grief? Is not my loss irreparable? I do ample jus-

tice to your generosity, and would have you think better of me than to suppose that I merely regret the deprivation of temporal advantage. I am young, and have received an education which will enable me to struggle through the world, let it deal ever so hardly with me. Think you then I can endure the thought of sitting idly down, and remain indebted to your friendship for what health and active exertion will enable me to procure for myself? I will do this chearfully; but can I cease to mourn for one of the best of parents and of women? Oh no!—The fond mother, who nurtered us at her breast, who led our infant steps through the paths of instruction, who soothed with tenderness the hours of pain and sickness, who preserved us from the dangers to which childish imbecility continually exposed us, who expanded our uninformed minds, and improved the first dawn of reason, who cherished our confidence, corrected our errors, and at last, in the awful moment, when age, affliction, or indigence sinks upon us for support and comfort, claims—oh, what does she not claim from a grateful heart! Are these human who repay with cold neglect services so important, kindness so unremitting? Surely not. Innumerable are the obligations, and the gratitude should be unbounded. Let me then entreat you no more to say, 'dry your tears, Harriet!' believe me thankful for your kindness, and willing for a short time to accept the assistance you offer; but remember it must only be 'till renovated spirits enable me to seek the means of supporting myself.

"Your affectionate and obliged friend,

"H. MARRIOT."

Julia was much pleased with having prevailed on her friend to reside with her, being in want of a female companion, and Harriet, fearful of reviving Julia's affliction for the loss of her father, endeavoured to conceal her own. But the mind of Julia was not formed for reflection—left in possession of an ample fortune, generosity in her became prodigality. She entered into every scene of dissipation with avidity, and the admonitions of her more prudent friend were too soon disregarded. It was at this period that Henry returned from Portugal; he hastened to pay his respects to his intended bride, and found her even surpassing the description that had been given of her. Julia received him kindly, but without feeling any particular interest in his favour; indeed she did him the injustice to imagine that her fortune was an object with him, and she was too much accustomed to the admiration of men of superior endowments to think much of one who had little beside a comely person and pleasing manners, to boast; to the real goodness of his heart she was yet a stranger. Determined not to surrender her liberty hastily, she gave Henry to understand,

stand, that she could not think of fulfilling the engagement which her father had made for her, 'till she was five and twenty; during which interval he would, perhaps, have occasion to thank her for her delay.

Henry, rather mortified by this sort of refusal, the motive of which he easily penetrated, resolved, if possible, to think no more of her, and, with this resolution, he again returned to Lisbon. Freed from the restraint which his presence in some measure imposed on her, she once more launched into every fashionable folly; among which gaming was the most alluring, and the most destructive. A worthy old man, who had been her father's confidential servant, and was still retained by her in the capacity of steward, saw her misconduct with the deepest regret. He had been attached to Henry from his infancy, and determined, if it was in his power, to save him from the misfortune of marrying a woman who, with all her accomplishments and good qualities, was so thoughtless and extravagant; he accordingly gave him a faithful account of every transaction during his absence.

One morning Julia sent for Morris, her steward, and informed him that she had been threatened with an arrest by one of her creditors, "You must, therefore," said she, "raise me two hundred pounds before to-morrow at this time, or I shall be disgraced for ever." "You command an impossibility, Madam," said Morris; "the cottage rents have not been paid this half year, our remittances are not arrived, and I have not above ten guineas to command." Julia was thunder struck. "Is it possible," she exclaimed, "that I have reduced myself to this! Mercy on me, what is to be done?"—"Sell your jewels, Madam." "Nonsense, I shall want them at a ball to-morrow night; somehow or other you must get the money." Morris bowed and withdrew. The next day he entered with a canvas bag, from which he took 200l. and laid the notes on the table before her. Her eyes sparkled with pleasure; "My good Morris, how fortunate! where did you get this lucky supply?" He looked stedfastly at her, "I gleaned it, Madam, from the ruins of three poor families." "What do you mean?" "I will tell you, Madam. Bad weather, scanty crops, and a sick wife, had prevented Farmer Smith from paying his rent; Thompson, the bricklayer, broke his leg last winter, and has ever since been unable to work; the Widow Browne has been obliged to part with all the money she had saved, to ransom her only son from a kidnapping party; the arrears of these three amounted to the sum you required, so I was obliged to distrain for the money; and here it is." "And what is become of them?" "Gone to prison, Madam; else you could not have the means of going to the

ball to-night." Julia was shocked; she sunk into a chair, pale as death. "Am I such a wretch?" said she, sighing. "Alas! Madam," replied Morris, "this is a common thing; the great seldom consider how many poor wretches are sometimes driven from house and home to procure them luxuries." "No!" exclaimed Julia, indignantly; "I will never be one of these; take back the money, and release the poor wretches. I have erred through indiscretion, not through vice; I will sell every valuable I possess, rather than be guilty of such baseness."

"God bless you, Madam!" exclaimed Morris, "I thought your heart was right; how dear Mr. Henry will rejoice to hear this." "What! is he acquainted with my folly?" asked Julia, colouring; "is this your fidelity. Go, Sir, quit my service; you have presumed on my favour; I will seek a more trusty steward." "Excuse me, Madam," replied Morris, "but you will soon have no occasion for any. I would have spared this shock to your feelings; but if you will be pleased to inspect some papers, which I have just received from abroad, you will find that you are ruined." Julia, who had never paid any attention to her affairs, was now almost overcome with shame and agony; she covered her face with her hands, and wept in silence. At that moment Harriet entered the room, and, alarmed at the situation of her friend, inquired the cause; when it was explained, she went to her, and taking her hand, said—

"My dear friend, why are you so overcome with this misfortune? is it not irretrievable; let me advise you to pursue for a time a plan of economical retirement, and you will soon recover this temporary embarrassment. Cast your eyes around you, view the hard lot of many worthy individuals, and murmur, if you dare. I will share your retirement with you, because I flatter myself my society will alleviate your uneasiness; we will lay down a little prudent plan for ourselves, and, depend upon it, you will find more real enjoyment in simple pleasures than ever you have done in this dissipated town." Julia was too much humbled and mortified to act for herself. Harriet and Morris therefore arranged every thing as they pleased; and Harriet undertook to inform Henry of what had passed, at the same time releasing him from his engagement to Julia, by her own particular desire.

In the course of a few weeks every thing was in readiness for their journey to Wales: a place recommended by Morris, as the most cheap, convenient, and pleasant. There, on a little estate of her own, which Morris undertook to farm, Julia resided several months, and became gradually reconciled to the change. At length a letter arrived from Lisbon; it was written by Henry, and addressed to Julia. He assured her, in the tenderest manner, of his regard, and satisfaction at the

change

change which had lately taken place in her habits and pursuits; expressing, at the same time, a most generous pleasure, that diligence and success in trade at length enabled him to return to England with a competence, which would afford him the delight of restoring her to society, to her friends, and to that rank in life which he imagined she must still sigh for.

To this she returned the following answer:—

"SIR,

"Gratified as I feel by the liberality of your sentiments, I cannot avail myself of your generous offer; I have deservedly forfeited the respect of the world, your regard, and my own self-approbation. Retirement is now my choice; from an excellent friend I have learnt that true happiness consists in the use, and not the abuse, of the goods of fortune; and, without ostentation, I declare that I find real pleasure consists in benevolence and moderation. If these sentiments, which are sincere, please you, and you are not attached to the bustle of the busy world, come and enliven us with your society. I respect your worth, and do not hesitate to say, that, in compliance with the wish of my lamented father, and the dictates of my own heart, you may yet command the hand of

"JULIA."

Henry, delighted with this letter, hastened home, and claimed her promise; when Morris, to their infinite surprise, declared that, availing himself of his mistress's indiscretion and inexperience, he had deceived her with a false account, in hopes of effecting a reform in her conduct, which he was happy enough to accomplish; and that her affairs were still in as prosperous a state as she could wish. Julia, however, had been too seriously alarmed to relapse into her former follies, and now lives a striking example of female worth.

E. F.

Military View of the Frontier of Spain and Portugal, on the Shores of the Guadianna.

By a Major in the British Army.

BY the last accounts, it appears, that a French army of above 40,000 men had entered Portugal at Elvas. From Madrid they took to Talavera de la Reyna, and then proceeded by Marida to Badajos and Elvas, which two last are the respective frontier towns of Spain and Portugal.

Badajos is the capital of Estremadura: it is seated on an eminence, on the south side of the Guadianna, over which there

there is a bridge 700 paces in length, built by the Romans. The distance from Madrid is 175 miles, in a south west direction. It was intended to have been regularly fortified, and in 1658 was besieged, but the siege was raised on the approach of the Spanish army under General Haro. It has eight bastions and other works, but they are even to this day incomplete.

Elvas is three leagues to the west on the opposite bank of the Guadianna, in the province of Alentejo. It reposes on a mountain, and is about 100 miles east of Lisbon. The town is irregularly fortified, but La Lippe, placed at the summit of the elevation, is a fortress commanding both the place and the adjacent country. In its former state, the town was unsuccessfully besieged by the Spaniards, in the year of the attack upon Badajos. Three regiments of foot, and one of cavalry, have always been quartered here.

The fortress of La Lippe deserves particular attention, and it has cost the Portuguese government an immense sum of money. The genius of an eminent architect was devoted to, and exhausted in this undertaking. It has four bastions, with many other works. The parapets are in the upper part of tupia, and in the lower of brick, and are contrived for a second defence. The buttresses are covered and are bomb proof, and to every two guns there is a separate magazine. Upon the top of these buttresses are lodging-houses for the officers in time of peace, which are to be thrown down when war with Spain commences, and the materials are to be converted to erect upper parapets. In the event of a breach being made in one of the bastions, decombres are to be immediately placed on an angle of the internal redoubt, so as to form at the same time a retrenchment and flank of that work. The mechanism of the draw-bridge is equally curious and well contrived.

It appears, that these important fortresses have been surrendered to the enemy without exchanging a single shot. To explain the infatuation to which the Portuguese government has surrendered itself, must be left to the researches of the historian.

Interesting Account of the last Days and Death of Richard II. King of England, in 1399.

(Continued from Page 92.)

THE king appointed Flint Castle for the place of interview, and when preparing to set out, said to the earl of Northumberland, "I trust to *your faith;* think upon your oaths, and the God to whom you have made them." The earl replied, "My dear Lord, if it be otherwise, treat me like a traitor."*

tor."* He afterwards demanded permission to go before to prepare supper for the king and duke, at Flint Castle; and the false traitor said at departing, "Sir, make haste, for two hours or thereabouts are already wasted."

Richard got on horseback, himself riding the twenty-second in rank, and getting down at a hill to walk, and looking upon the valley, said to the earl of Salisbury, "Don't you see banners and pennons below?" "Certainly, Sir; yes, (replied the earl) and my heart forbodes ill." The bishop of Carlisle added, "I have not the least doubt but this man has betrayed you." At the same time they saw the earl of Northumberland coming to them, himself riding the twelfth in rank. "Sire," he said, "I come to meet you." The king asked him, who those people were in the valley below. "I have seen nothing," replied Northumberland. "Look then, (said Salisbury), here they are before you." "They are your people, (cried the bishop), I know your banner." "Northumberland, (said the king) if I thought that you intended to betray me, it is still time. I will return to Conway." "You shall not return there, (replied the traitor, unmasking himself, and seizing the king's bridle), I am going to bring you to the duke of Lancaster, as I promised, for I do not break *all* my promises." He had in fact, put in ambuscade at the foot of the hill, one hundred spears and two hundred archers, who were with him in a moment, sounding the trumpet. The king said to the earl, "That just God whom you have invoked, will repay you and your accomplice at the day of judgment." Then looking at his companions, who were weeping, he said with a sigh, "Ha, my good and loyal friends, we are betrayed! For God's sake be patient and remember our Lord, who was sold and put into the hands of his enemies without deserving it."

They put the king and his companions in Flint Castle, and garrisoned it well with men at arms. This was August 21, 1399.

When Richard was alone with his friends, he gave himself up to the complaints and lamentations which his situation inspired.

[The author who appears to have been present, has preserved these complaints: they have the double merit of being sometimes affecting from their *naiveté*, and of mentioning divers anecdotes, concerning the duke of Lancaster.]

After many invocations to God, the Virgin, and Saint John the Baptist, his patron, "Ha, (cried Richard), very dear sister and lady, most dear and beloved companion, Isabel of France, I shall never see you again! Ha! most dear father, and most

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noble king of France, I commend myself to you, and leave you your daughter, who, would to God! was still with you; ha! most dear father of France, and good uncle of Berry and Burgundy, flower of all noblesse, never will this disgrace be avenged by you, no; ha! good cousin of Britanny; alas! you well said at departing that I should never be safe, whilst Henry of Lancaster lived! Alas! I have three times saved his life; for my good uncle of Lancaster, whom God pardon,* wished me once to put him to death, for the treason and villainy which he had committed. Ha! God of paradise, I rode all night to save him from death, when his father gave him up to me at my request, and told me to have my will of him! Ha, God, how true is it, that one cannot have a worse enemy than one saved from the gibbet! Ha, God! formerly he drew his sword upon me in my queen's chamber, whom God absolve! Likewise was he in agreement and counsel with the duke of Gloucester, and the earl of Arundel, to kill me, his father, and all of my council. Ha, my godfather, Monsieur Saint John Baptist!* when I pardoned him, all his treasons against me, and would not believe my uncle his father, who two or three times had condemned him to die! Alas, I acted like a fool; ha! very dear mother and lady, madame the queen of France, I commend myself to you! Alas! I had proposed shortly to come and see you, and to bring to you Isabel, your daughter, my dear lady and love, who has a great desire to see you. Ha! most dear brother, noble dauphin of Vienne, alas! I see clearly that I shall never behold you! Ha! brother in law Louis duke of Touraine,† and you my sisters of France, was Isabel, my very dear companion, with you at Paris! Alas! if I was assured of her safety, I should die more lightly and more easily! Ha, my most dear father, have pity on my very dear wife, Isabel, your daughter; ha! all noble lords of France, such enormous treason as my own kindred and relations have done to me, was never done to any of the noble kings of France! I beg you very humbly, if it pleases you to assist and comfort my very dear father and lord the noble king of France, all times and as many times, as it pleases him to take vengeance, which God grant that he may do, and very summary as the case demands. Ha! my very dear sister and lady, and dear companion Isabel of France,

9 surely

* This was a common expression, at naming the dead.

* This is *now* very ridiculous: but the stile and expressions of the original must be adhered to literally.

† This perpetual use of the title is rather singular. Addresses by the *plain surname* occur in a contemporary. *Froiss.* vii. 62, and alibi. The author is evidently a Frenchman, for they still use the prefixes of *Mons. Mons. le Comte,* &c. upon *all* occasions.

surely if I could see you once, before I died, surely I should die more easy, and take death with more inclination."

[We see by this that the unfortunate prince, had at least some sensibility: we also see that he was more attached to France, than *then* (so Monsieur Galliard) was proper for a king of England.]

The duke of Lancaster, being informed of events by the earl of Northumberland, advanced to Flint Castle, with all his army, amounting to nearly twenty-four thousand men. Richard saw him from the terrace walks, at the top of the castle, where he was taking the air. At this sight, he was much affected: he groaned, and tears fell from his eyes: he said to his companions, "My friends, the hour advances, when we are to be delivered to our mortal enemy." Lancaster drew up his army around the castle, with such a noise of trumpets and instruments, that it seemed as if the castle would fall, and even thunder could not have been heard.

Whilst the king was at dinner, some inquisitive persons of the duke's *suite*, came into the hall, every minute, to see the king, and said to his people and the other lords, "Eat hearty and make a good dinner, *(menez bonne fete)*; for, by Saint George! you will all very soon have your heads cut off." After dinner, the meeting between the king and the duke took place. The king, making an effort to receive him graciously *(bien traiter)*; saluted him and said, "A welcome return to you." "I have returned sooner than you expected, that I should, (said the duke); I am come to help you to govern the kingdom; for these twenty-two years that it has been under your management, you have not acted to the pleasure of the nation." He afterwards spoke to all the lords in the suite of the king, the earl of Salisbury excepted. During the stay of the duke of Lancaster at Paris, Richard had sent Salisbury to prevent the duke's marriage with the daughter of the duke of Berry: in consequence of this commission, Salisbury thought it his duty not to see the duke of Lancaster at Paris. The duke therefore caused it to be signified to him at Flint, that, as little as he had condescended to say to him at Paris, so little should be said in return at Flint. The duke made the king mount horse, and dragged him in his retinue to Chester, where he put him in the custody of the son of the duke of Gloucester,* and of the earl of Arundel, saying to them, "Here is the murderer of your fathers: *he is here to answer for it to you.*" They in order to deprive him of his last consolation, separated him from his friends, who with tears embraced him and withdrew, while immoveable with agony, and

* He left no *son*, only a daughter, and heiress, wife of William earl of Eu. *Bolton's Extinct Peerage*, 120. Editors.

sinking under the oppression of his misfortunes, he was neither able to weep or speak.

[Froissart mentions several interesting particulars in this solemn crisis of Richard's unhappy history. Among the rest, (vol. xii. 141.) the following curious and beautiful incident. Greyhounds were the favourite dogs of the æra, and when they left their master, and caressed his enemy, it was deemed ominous. Richard's greyhound left the king, and fawned upon Lancaster, at Flint.]

The author was probably one of those friends, who were separated from Richard, for after having reported the complaints of the king, at Flint Castle, because he had heard them; he says in this place, "No one knows any thing of his complaints or lamentations, except those who guarded him." In passing through Lichfield, he meditated an escape, which made them guard him more severely, *and like a thief or murderer.* He was thus dragged in triumph in the train of Lancaster, amidst the acclamations of the people, who blessed Henry, and insulted Richard, demanding his head. The duke replied, that he should be judged by a *free parliament.* When he came near London, where he could be scarcely known, so much was his visage altered by grief *(inondé de larmes)* some pitied him exceedingly: others d——d him, and said, "We are well revenged of this *little bastard,* who has made such a bad use of his government."

To understand this contumely, it is necessary to observe, that the duke of Lancaster, the father (John of Gaunt), who wished to succeed to the throne upon the death of the *Black Prince,* his brother, had *spread some clouds* over the legitimacy of Richard. It was thrown out, that he was the son of a canon of Bourdeaux: that his mother's palace was always full of young and handsome clerks and canons, and upon this foundation they calumniated the most virtuous and respectable princess in the world.* They pretended even to attack her marriage with the prince of Wales, saying, that the earl of Salisbury, her first husband, who was separated from her, without dissolution of the marriage, was living when she married the prince of Wales. Edward III. put an end to this equivocal subject, and all incertitude, by declaring Richard his heir, proclaiming him prince of Wales, and bestowing upon him all the honours and estates of the Black Prince, his father.

But

* This was not the *first* slander about the countess: her ascendancy over Edward, (witness the institution of the garter), and the stories in *Froissart* and *Du Chesne,* and her separation, *have an odd look,* especially as she was a woman of much spirit and strong sense, who knew how to manage well in all respects.

But when in the end, the nation was exasperated against Richard these ancient calumnies were revived.

(To be continued.)

REMARKABLE SMALL-POX CASE.

ROBERT ALLEN, of Piddletown, in Dorsetshire, was, on the 10th of December, 1808, seized with a confluent small-pox, of which, ten days afterwards, he died; a proof that his disease was highly malignant.

His two children, one aged three years, the other seven months, (having no other bed to lie on), were steeped in his pestiferous atmosphere (by sleeping with him) from the time of his seizure to the day of his death. They could not, therefore, without a miracle, have escaped the infection. On the 16th of December, the sixth day of their father's illness, (and not before), they were inoculated with cow-pox matter, which providentially took effect, and although, from being employed so late, it had not the power of preventing the effect of the variolous poison (they must before have imbibed) altogether, it was sufficient (in all human probability) to preserve these children from death, from danger, and from deformity: both of them had a very mild small-pox, (about a hundred pustules each). What sort of a disease they would have had from such a source of infection, if vaccination had not been employed, the reader will easily conjecture.

Six persons were inoculated with matter taken from one of these children, two of whom had been vaccinated some time before; these two, as might have been expected, did not take the infection: the four others had not been vaccinated before, they, therefore, as might have been expected, did take the infection, and had eruptions similar to those from which the matter was taken, (most likely variola vaccinata). But this is not all that occurred in favour of cow-pox, (or rather in disfavour of small-pox inoculation), in these remarkable cases: so powerful were the infectious effluvia of this poor man, that his wife, who had the small-pox by inoculation nine years before, and her mother, who had the small-pox twenty-eight years before, both caught the infection from their attendance on him, and thus had the small-pox a second time. The eruptions of the wife maturated like those of the children, and also like them began to dry off on the fifth day; those of her mother did not maturate, but dried off almost immediately.

Comparative View of the national Advantages resulting from Manufactures and Agriculture.

By J. Stanley, Esq. of Cheshire.

THE expences of farming seem to have increased about a fourth within the last twelve years; the profits have certainly not increased in the same proportion. Agriculture must necessarily suffer, if some measures are not taken to secure to those engaged in it, their fair and accustomed gain. It will be a bad policy to drive all men of capital and intelligence into trades, which cannot enable them to add so much to the real wealth of the nation, as they could when they were stimulated in the character of farmers scattered over the country, to improve the land to its utmost, to increase the numbers of cattle, horses, sheep, farm-buildings, and all kinds of agricultural stock; and to awaken the industry of the common people; and tempt them to apply their labour to the most useful purposes. Trade may appear to enrich a country more than agriculture, by more immediately introducing into it the gold and silver of other nations; but gold and silver are not either industry, food, raiment, or dwelling, and they are of use only as they act as stimulants to produce either some or all of these. How far they do this (securing independance at the same time), must be determined, before their value is appreciated. Money is the exciter of labour; and if, when we have got it, we send it again abroad to excite the labour of foreigners, towards the supplying us with any one article requisite for our strength or comfort which might have been provided by our own industry, we shall have lost, and they have gained, a certain portion of power and industry, or real wealth.

A farmer who, in the course of a few years, doubles a capital of 1000l. may have added much more to the force, and to the mass of comfort in his country, than the manufacturer, who in the same time may have made 10 of his 1000l. In the one case, the nation may possess instead of so many acres capable of producing food for twenty families, as many, producing food for forty families; and instead of several idle and beggarly peasants, at least as many laborious, healthy, well clad, and well lodged labourers, all fond of comfort, and of course having many wants; in other words, all exciteable to the utmost exertion of their powers. These labourers, by their earnings under the farmer, may each of them have procured a cow and a pig, and converted a piece of a common near them, into a field and garden, capable of supporting them. In the other case, after the manufacturer's retreat with his 10,000l. the nation may contain a large cotton work more than it had before, just of as much value as the wood and bricks

bricks contained in it; and the knowledge of spinning and piecing cotton threads, obtained by two or three hundred individuals, at the expence of their health, their morals, and their agricultural knowledge and inclination. If government considers only the facility of raising a loan, the unapplied 10,000l. in the hands of the manufacturer, will be compared with the farmer's 1000l. and the exertions of the first estimated as of the greatest value; but short-sighted indeed must be the politician who forms his judgment of the utility of men's occupations from no other source than the possible ultimate gain in money of a single individual at the head of a concern. The manufacturer may be growing rich, while his manufactory is absolutely impoverishing his country. Suppose the people employed in a cotton work to receive their food from abroad, that all the corn they consume came from America; such an establishment then would have produced the effect (by diminishing the numbers employed in agriculture) of increasing the prices of agricultural labour, without having increased the value of agricultural produce.

After all, we have no assurance that the manufacturer will employ his money, when he has got it, to augment the industry of his own countrymen. It may very possibly be lent to an American or West-Indian adventurer. It may contribute to the production of wheat or sugar on the other side of the Atlantic, which American ships, filled with American sailors, may bring over to Europe, stimulated by the money gained, perhaps in England by some other manufactory. Thus the whole business of trade and manufactory, however apparently advantageous, may become injurious to our best interests; but no one will contend against its essential and probable uses. I only am anxious our statesmen should allow that trade ought to follow, and not take the lead of agriculture.

It is clear, that a province containing 100,000 individuals capable of supplying each other, in all seasons, with the first necessaries of life, would be a greater addition to the strength and welfare of the nation, than a town containing the same number, engaged in trade exclusively, and dependant on foreigners for food; it would be much more likely to have an encreased prosperous population, and to improve its real wealth, its morality, and consequently its happiness. Its interests would be the part likely to be affected by war, and not only the best armies but ultimately the greatest revenue, must be forth coming from it. In fact, towns are necessary evils in our system; their very prosperity produces luxury, feebleness of character, selfishness, and vice. The numbers of men of abilities they contain, who cannot have the least experience of the operation of any one law or measure, on the state at large, by their eloquence and publications; and the mobs, by their threatenings,

threatenings, induce, nay force, government very often to sacrifice to a mere temporary interest, the soundest principles of policy. If possible, the population of a country should be kept diffused over its whole surface; at any rate, no artificial inducements should be allowed to draw men from where they can be of the most, to where they must be of the least use.

MASSOOLAH BOAT.

THE Massoolah boat, so common on the coasts of the peninsula of Hindoostan, is one of the most extraordinary inventions that navigation has to boast. To all appearance any other kind of vessel would be safer on the water; but the fact is, that no boat of any other kind dare venture over the violent surf which breaks along the sea shore at Fort St. George. It is unique in its construction, equally unlike the solid canoe, and the European invention of caulked vessels. It is flat-bottomed, and the planks of which it is composed are literally sewn together with the fibres of the Kyar-rope, made from the cocoa-tree; and the stitches, if they may be so called, are so little connected, that it should seem there could be no security against its leaking so much as to injure its safety. To prevent an accident of this nature, each boat is always provided with a baler. These boats are used to convey goods and passengers to and from the ships in the Madras roads; and, on their return from the ships, they are sometimes thrown with such violence against the shore, that if they did not, by their singular construction, yield to the shock, they would be dashed in pieces. The steersman stands on the stern of the vessel, and the rudder is simply an oar. The dexterity with which he balances himself in a heavy sea is perfectly astonishing. The number of boats used there is one hundred and twenty, and they furnish occupation for upwards of one thousand natives.

DESCRIPTION *of the* INHABITANTS *of* QUEBEC.

THERE are in fact three different nations resident in Canada—The English, the Indians, and the French, or, as they are always called, the Canadians. The latter compose about two-thirds of the people, and the English the least portion of all. Montreal, indeed, and all the upper province, is filled with Scotch and English families, who have retired from their native country. They purchase land for a mere trifle, and live upon it for even less: nay, in short, lead the golden age in perfection, and think of nothing but to make good the motto,

motto, "*vivamus dum vivimus.*" In Quebec, and the vicinity, the case alters: the English, who settle here, are the army, the professional men, and the merchants. The governors and some few officers, are dashing men, and seldom stay long in the place. The clergy are only three, besides the bishop, but are pleasant respectable men. The physicians and lawyers are but few. The merchants, who consist of thirty or perhaps fifty men, chiefly young ones, are by no means well informed: they have been, generally speaking, educated in the counting-house, or Manchester cotton-works, and having picked up a competency, have set up for men of fashion and importance.

The Indians, in great numbers, cross the river every morning in canoes, made of bark, perfectly safe, though so light that they carry them on their shoulders. They are a mild, honest set of people, and are proud of the notice the English take of them. They generally speak a little of our language, and all of them French, as being the more generally used; for in fact, I am almost the only person in Quebec ignorant of it. The Indians are all converted to the Roman catholic church, the outward pomp of which is calculated to please their dispositions: indeed they are singularly fond of shew. They wear clothes of any shape, or materials, so that the colour is dashing, and the women especially load their ears, chins, and noses, with great weights of lead, tin, glass, or paste-beads.

I shall now give you some account of the Canadians. Perhaps I may be prejudiced against them from my natural dislike of the French, but I think them a very unpleasant, nay, disgusting people. They are honest, and amongst themselves sociable, obliging and polite, and they are very civil to us. The higher classes dress elegantly, and live gaily; the lower ones wear neither shoes nor stockings, the men are almost naked, and the women's dress is very unbecoming indeed; though on the Sunday all is gaiety. The men cast off their filthy trowsers and straw bonnets, and the women their immense caps and short hooped petticoats; and you then see little difference between a lady and her maid, a gentleman and his shoe-black, for they are all equally ignorant and void of manners. They are all Roman catholics, ignorant, stupid, superstitious, and blindly devoted to their priests, many of whom are indeed wolves in sheep's clothing. The highest classes have sometimes a little instruction, but the middle and lower orders can neither read or write. The clergy find it necessary to keep them in the dark, for their own interest, and they overruled a plan which the English wished to adopt, that of establishing a school for the gratuitous education of the Canadians in the Canadian language and religion.

* * *

SINGULAR

SINGULAR CURE *by the* USE *of the* MAGNET.

A Singular instance of success in applying the magnet, to extract a fragment of iron out of the human eye, has been recently transmitted to the Philosophical Magazine. It seems in the course of last summer, Charles Milsted, a blacksmith, of Tenterden, in Kent, received a particle of iron about the size of a small pin's head, in the ball of his left eye, while he was striking the head of one hammer against another. Some weeks after this accident, a gentleman applied a magnet, to the part injured, but could only draw out a mixture of powdered rust with the tears. This gave no relief, as the fragment of iron was yet in the eye. A surgeon endeavoured to take it out with the point of a lancet, but finding it firmly fixed very near the pupil, he concluded it was impossible to touch it with any instrument without extreme danger. The former gentleman then sent again for the young man, and examining the eye with a very powerful magnifying glass, he could see a very small particle of black iron; but covered over with the thin coating of the eye. Being satisfied with the exact situation of the piece of iron, and the impediments to be surmounted, the eye-lids were held open, and he applied the north pole of a combined staple-magnet, possessing great power, at the distance of about the sixteenth of an inch from the eye; then he used a magnet of less power, but of more convenient construction, and continued to apply them both by turns, 'till he could at length perceive that the fragment had projected above the surface of the iris of the eye. Still there was a coating to cut its way through, before the magnet could draw it out. In fact it seemed as firmly fixed as a thorn in the flesh, and was very different from what it might have been, had it been only loosely floating on the outer surface of the eye.

During this operation, the young man frequently thought he felt the fragment rush out of his eye, before it really had done so; however, after using magnets of different degrees of power for ten or fifteen minutes, the particle of iron cut its way through the thin teguments of the eye by the power of attraction, and was taken out by the magnet. By the assistance of glasses, it appeared of an imperfect octagon shape, armed with rough jagged edges. The eye was, notwithstanding, free from pain, the moment it was out, though for some months before the patient had suffered night and day without intermission: a small scar still remained on the eye, but it occasioned no pain. Knowing that the magnetic fluid will make its passage even through plates of glass, when any particle of iron is within its influence, the writer is surprised, a mean so familiar and natural as the present is not more frequently recurred to in such cases.

NEW ZEALAND CONFINEMENT.

THE following article is copied from Mr. Savage's Account of New Zealand, a work recently published:

"Tippeehee, the chieftain, has a well constructed dwelling on this island, and a large collection of spears, war-mats, and other valuables.

"A short distance from the residence of the chief is an edifice every way similar to a dove-cote, standing upon a single post, and not larger than dove-cotes usually are. In this Tippeehee confined one of his daughters for several years; we understood she had fallen in love with a person of inferior condition, and that these means were adopted to prevent her from bringing disgrace upon her family. The space allotted to the lady would neither allow of her standing up, or stretching at her length; she had a trough, in which her food was deposited as often as was thought necessary during her confinement, and I could not find that she was allowed any other accommodation. These privations, and all converse being denied her, prove that Tippeehee was determined to exhibit a severe example to his subjects; at least to such of the young ladies of that part of New Zealand as might be inclined to degrade themselves and their families by unsuitable alliances.

"The long confinement, with all its inconveniencies, produced the desired effect, in rendering the princess obedient to the wishes of her royal parent. This barbarous cage, which is ornamented with much grotesque carving, still remains as a memento in terrorem to all the young ladies under Tippehee's government."

BON MOT.

AN officer being very much intoxicated, an old soldier observed to his comrade, that he was afraid that there was something wrong at *head-quarters*.

Answer, by J. French, at Evershot School, to W. D. Champion's Question, inserted November 14.

BY a proper process I find $x=20$, $y=7$, $z=2$, and $w=4$, consequently 20 years, 7 months, 2 weeks, and 4 days, is the age required.

*** Similar answers have been received from A. B. of St. Austle; J. Ball, at Evershot school; R. Maffett, R. Withall, and G. Harvey, of Plymouth; and Tom Tangent.

Answer, by J. Woodman, of North Curry, to Tyro's Charade, inserted the 5th of December.

STOCKLAND is, I plainly see,
The place of your nativity.

*** We have received similar answers from J. French, J. Patten, and J. Ball, at Evershot school; W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater; J. Melhuish, of Honiton; T. Pearse, near Chard; and F. Arden, and S. Duck, of South Petherton.

Answer, by F. Russell, at Tiverton School, to H. Ellis's Rebus, inserted the 12th of December.

WHILE Albion still recounts great Edward's reign,
And Britain's sons imperious France disdain,
So long shall that great battle be renown'd,
Which, won at AGINCOURT, their country crown'd.

☞ A similar answer has been received from H. B. of Bridgewater; S. Duck, and F. Arden, of South Petherton; J. W. of Charmouth; John Melhuish, of Honiton; T. Whicker, of Exeter; J. Woodman, of North Curry; Philo Musæus, of Yeovil; C. Dean, of Fair Mile, near Ottery; and W. Kent, near Camelford.

Answer, by W. D. Champion, of Bridgewater, to J. Melhuish's Charade, inserted the 12th of December.

A BRIDE-MAID, Sir, I've brought to sight,
Who doth attend the nuptial rite.

*** Similar answers have been received from H. B. of Bridgewater; W. Kent, near Camelford; F. Arden, and Samuel Duck, of South Petherton; Philo Musæus, of Yeovil; and J. Woodman, of North Curry.

A CHARADE, *by W. Kent, near Camelford.*

OFT to my first mankind resort,
To buy and sell of every sort;
And, Sirs, my next with ease you'll find,
Distributed in every clime:
The parts when join'd it will be found,
They will a Cornish town expound.

A REBUS, *by R. Loosemore, of Tiverton.*

THE wife of Orpheus you'll first reveal;
The goddess of shepherds explain;
A beautiful woman my next doth conceal;
My fourth by his brother was slain;
A monarch of Crete you next must descry,
For justice ordain'd judge in Hell;
An infernal deity also apply;
The mother of Romulus tell.
A favourite mistress of Neptune unfold,
My last she will surely display:
If you join the initials you then will behold
An insect that lives but a day.

POETRY.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

VIRTUE.

Respectfully inscribed to a Lady of Heavitree, near Exeter.

FROM yonder mountain's rocky side,
Behold the foaming torrent flow;
Adown the slope it rolls its tide,
And settles in the vale below.

Form'd in a pure, transparent lake,
In peaceful stillness it abides;
The beast loves there its thirst to slake,
And swans delight to stem its tide.

Unnumber'd isles its bosom grace,
Unfading verdure decks its shores;
And o'er its far extended space
The boisterous tempest never roars.

Thus rough at first is VIRTUE's way,
But farther on it smoother grows;
Its pleasures never will decay,
Nor ever know a final close.

J. TREADWIN.

ON THE DAWN OF DAY.

[From Mrs. Owenson's Lay of an Irish Harp.]

THERE is a soft and fragrant hour,
Sweet, fresh, reviving is its power;
'Tis when a ray
Steals from the veil of parting night,
And by its mild prelusive light
Foretells the day.

'Tis when some ling'ring stars scarce shed
O'er the mist-clad mountain's head
Their fairy beam.
Then one by one retiring, shroud,
Dim glittering thro' a fleecy cloud,
Their last faint gleam.

'Tis when (just wak'd from transient death
By some fresh zephyr's balmy breath)
Th' unfolding rose
Sheds on the air its rich perfume,
While every bud with deeper bloom
And beauty glows.

'Tis when the sea-girt turret's brow
Receives the east's first kindling glow,
And the dark wave,

Swelling

Swelling to meet the orient gleam
Reflects the warmly strength'ning beam
It seems to lave.

'Tis when the restless child of sorrow,
Watching the wish'd-for rising morrow,
His couch foregnes,
And seeks midst scenes so sweet, so mild,
To sooth those pangs so keen, so wild,
Of hopeless woes.

Nor day, nor night, this hour can claim,
Nor moon-light ray, nor noon-tide beam,
Does it betray;
But fresh, reviving, dewy, sweet,
It hastes the glowing hours to meet
Of rising day.

BALLAD, FOUNDED ON FACT.

[From Mrs. Opie's Poems.]

ROUND youthful Henry's restless bed
His weeping friends and parents press'd;
But she who rais'd his languid head
He lov'd far more than all the rest.

Fond mutual love their bosoms fir'd;
And nearly dawn'd their bridal day,
When every hope at once expir'd,
For Henry on his death-bed lay.

The fatal truth the sufferer read
In weeping Lucy's downcast eye:
"And must I, must I then," he said
"Ere thou art mine, my Lucy, die?

No! deign to grant my last, last prayer;
'Twould sooth thy lover's parting breath,
Wouldst thou with me to church repair,
Ere yet I feel the stroke of death.

For, trust me, love, I shall my life
With something like to joy resign,
If I but once may call thee, wife,
And, dying, claim and hail thee mine."

He ceas'd: and Lucy check'd the thought,
That he might at the altar die;
The prayer with such true love was fraught,
How could she such a prayer deny?

They reach'd the church; her cheek was wan
With chilling fears of coming woe;
But triumph, when the rites began,
Lent Henry's cheek a flattering glow.

The nuptial knot was scarcely tied,
When Henry's eye strange lustre fir'd;
"She's mine! she's mine!" he faltering cried,
And in that throb of joy expir'd.